地下鉄の犬
Chien dans métro

草間さかえ
KUSAMA SAKAE

ドラ drap コミックス No.245

METRO DOG

KUSAMA SAKAE

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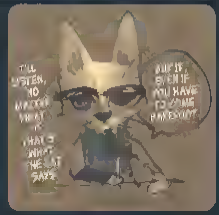
SALARYMAN SHINODA IS GOING HOME FROM WORK WHEN THE SCENT OF COFFEE LURES HIM TO A COMBINATION TOBACCONIST AND ANTIQUE SHOP.

THERE HE MEETS THE SHOPKEEPER ASAKURA. UNEXPECTEDLY, SHINODA STARTS COMING TO THE SHOP EVERY DAY, BUT...!? FEELINGS TURN TO LOVE AS PORTRAYED IN THIS ADULT LOVE STORY

WHAT WERE YOU SAYING? A MAN OF CHARAC- TER?
HE DOESN'T HAVE A GREAT PERSONALITY.
OH, SECTION CHIEF?
IS WHAT HE'S TRYING TO SAY.
He's not, you know!
LOOK IT UP IN THE DICTIONARY.
HE'S THE IDEAL BOSS.
HE IS!
I'M NOT SOMEONE WHO COULD DO SOME- THING LIKE THAT...
SO TRUE--
...
BUT I REALLY LOVE THE PRETTY ONES...!
AND I MIGHT BE IN...

PROFILE

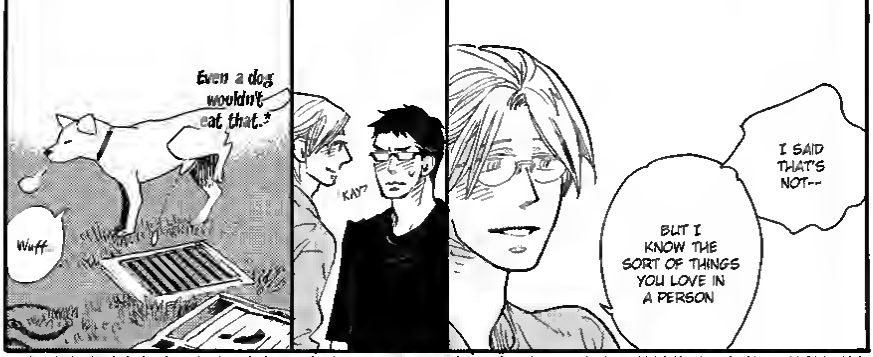


BORN FEBRUARY 28
BLOOD TYPE B
CURRENT STATUS: I LIKE CHEERFUL PEOPLE AND DANDIES, BUT I ALSO LIKE GLOOMY PEOPLE.
MIDDLE-AGED

AUTHOR OF
CARNIVOROUS ANIMAL'S TABLE MANNERS
IROME

COVER DESIGN/
YUKIKO KANNO

A LITTLE AFTER-STORY



*T/N: THIS IS A REFERENCE TO A JAPANESE SAYING THAT LOVER'S QUARRELS ARE SO INSUBSTANTIAL THAT EVEN A DOG WOULDN'T EAT THEM.

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I WORKED FOR DRAF COMICS. TO ALL OF YOU FOR WHOM THIS IS OUR FIRST TIME MEETING EACH OTHER, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR READING THIS BOOK. IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE PUBLISHED A WHOLE VOLUME SO IF YOU ENJOYED READING **METRO 006**, THEN THAT WOULD MAKE ME VERY HAPPY.

IT WAS A GLOOMY MAIDEN SEME X AN UKE LACKING IN ANY ASSERTIVENESS IN HIS PRIVATE LIFE. AFTERWARDS MY EDITOR SAID, "IT'S A GLASSES X GLASSES, BUT NO PROBLEM!" AND I ALMOST COULDN'T BELIEVE MY EARS, BUT I REALLY TRIED TO ACCEPT IT.

IT'S A QUESTION OF GENERATION. I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN A GOOD GENERATION. IF GLASSES EVER COME UNDER PERSECUTION, HIDE THIS BOOK UNDER THE SINK OR SEND IT TO THE RESISTANCE VIA CARRIER PIGEON, PLEASE. I PRAY WE'LL PUT UP A GOOD FIGHT.

OH, AND BEFORE GORO BECAME SENTIENT, HE WAS CASTRATED ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF HIS VET, SO HIS MIND IS THAT OF A WOMAN. TO MY READERS AND EDITOR, WITH ALL MY GRATITUDE. UNTIL NEXT TIME.

草間さかえ

KUSAMA SAKAE

drap COMICS No.245

METRO DOG

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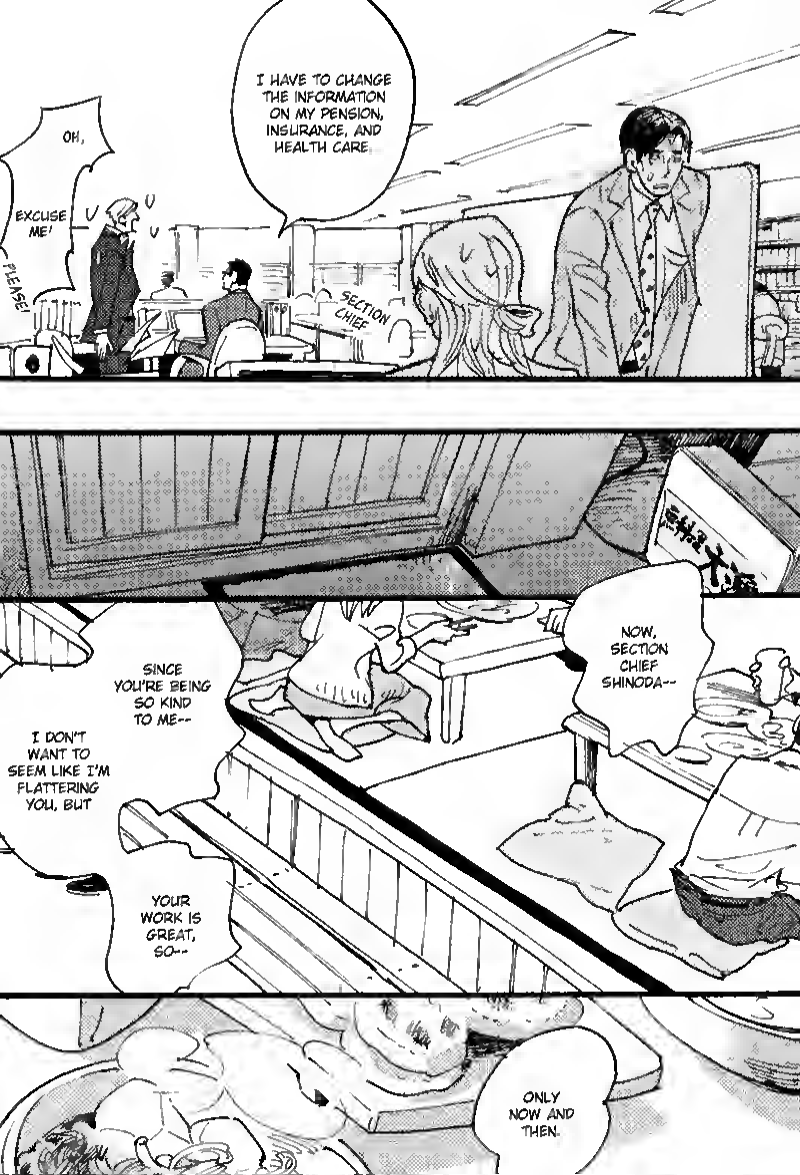
METRO
DOG

bang
clang
klatch
slam
wobble wobble
wobble

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
UGH!
SFX BAM
OH--
I'M SORRY.
NOT AT ALL.
BE CAREFUL!
HM?

ER, ONO-SAN?
RIGHT. GOOD. CAN I GET A CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM?
HE DIDN'T SMELL LIKE BOOZE.
WHAT THE—?

ARE YOU MOVING, SIR?
YES
AND I'D LIKE A CHANGE OF FAMILY FORM AS WELL
W-WE'RE OUT OF THOSE RIGHT NOW
ba-thump
WE'LL BE GETTING MORE IN LATER
NO NEED. I'LL GO TO HR AND GET ONE
DON'T TELL ME...?!
Y-YES SIR
SECTION CHIEF SHINODA-- DID YOU SAY SOMETHING ABOUT CHANGE OF FAMILY?
rustle
rustle
YOU'RE GETTING DIVORCED, RIGHT?


I HAVE TO CHANGE THE INFORMATION ON MY PENSION, INSURANCE, AND HEALTH CARE.
SECTION CHIEF
OH, EXCUSE ME! PLEASE!
NOW, SECTION CHIEF SHINODA--
SINCE YOU'RE BEING SO KIND TO ME--
I DON'T WANT TO SEEM LIKE I'M FLATTERING YOU, BUT
YOUR WORK IS GREAT, SO--
ONLY NOW AND THEN.

ALTHOUGH, THERE HAVE BEEN TIMES WHERE I HAD NO IDEA WHAT YOU WERE THINKING OF.
...SO I'VE BEEN TOLD
BY WHOM?
spit
HERE, SECTION CHIEF. YOUR CUP IS EMPTY.
bonk
DON'T SAY ANOTHER WORD!
GO AHEAD AND PASS OUT.
pat
pat
pat

"IT'S TO CELEBRATE YOUR MOVE!"
HUH...
THEY MADE SUCH A FUSS...
When I get home...
step
step
I'll look for it.
In that mountain of cardboard boxes.

SFX: BANG
IF I DO THAT, THEN I CAN CALM MY MIND.
OW...
WHAT WAS THAT?
?
I always take the same way home.
Tobacconist
creak
SMELLS LIKE COFFEE

HUH?
AN APPLIANCE STORE?
Tobacconist
DID YOU WANT TO BUY CIGARETTES?
OH.
THANKS... FOR THAT
ON THE LIGHT POLE LAST NIGHT
HUH?
IS THE PLACE WHERE YOU BUMPED YOURSELF ALL RIGHT?

...CAN I HAVE SOME COFFEE?
OF COURSE
HUH?
YOU DIDN'T HIT YOURSELF BECAUSE YOU WERE DRUNK YESTERDAY, RIGHT?
HERE
SMOOTHLY
MARKS FROM THE NOSEPADS OF YOUR GLASSES

ER...
?
stare
YOUR EYES ARE PRETTY BAD...
IT'S MY HAND.
WHAT'S THIS?
touch
WHEN YOU'RE FARSIGHTED, IT'S HARD TO SEE OBJECTS THAT ARE CLOSE-UP.
?
release
EXCUSE ME YOUR HAND
DID YOU BREAK YOUR GLASSES?
DO YOU HAVE A SPARE PAIR?
AH, NO.
DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE BEEN GOING WITHOUT THEM SINCE YESTERDAY!?

I TOOK THEM OFF ON MY WAY HOME..
THEY'RE HERE
EH?
BUT WHY ..?
HAS ANYONE TOLD YOU THAT YOU HAVE A GIRLY FACE?
UH..
HA
NO, IT'S JUST THAT..
I'M SORRY YOU RESEMBLE SOMEONE I KNOW..!
A GIRLY FACE?

HE WAS A TERRIBLE PLAYBOY
I'M OFTEN TOLD BY MY FAMILY THAT I RESEMBLE MY LATE GRAND-FATHER.
A PLAYBOY—
HE SPENT HIS FORTUNE COLLECTING ANTIQUES
EIGHTY PERCENT OF WHICH WERE FAKES AND CURIOS—
WELL, BUT I ..
I LIKE THEM TOO.
HEH HEH
OPEN

HOW BIG IS THE ITEM?
THE INSIDE OF THIS IS BIG ENOUGH FOR B5 PAPER
THE METAL FITTINGS ON THE CORNERS ARE SO CUTE.
You're calling an old box like this "cute"?
ER...
IT'S ON A4 PAPER
creak
THIS MIGHT BE TOO SMALL TO PUT THAT IN...
OH-- THAT SCRATCH?
rub
...EVEN MORE, IS IT ALL RIGHT FOR IT TO BE DAMAGED?

IT'S DIFFERENT WITH DECORATIVE OBJECTS
IF YOU USE THEM WITH CARE, EVEN THOUGH DAMAGED...
THERE ARE ALSO USELESS PEOPLE, BUT...
THEY HAVE MEANING
I SUPPOSE SO
...I SEE
SFX: BONG
I GUESS THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO THINK LIKE THAT

SFX: BONG
AH..
OH, I CAN'T ACCEPT YOUR MONEY.
I DON'T HAVE A FOOD AND DRINK LICENSE
HOW MUCH DO I OWE YOU?
IS IT ALREADY THAT TIME?
OH? BUT YOU
SERVED ME COFFEE--
AH'
I WAS SLEEPY AND HAD JUST MADE SOME WHEN YOU CAME ALONG.
...THAT WAS JUST CIRCUM-STANCE.

DIDN'T YOU THINK THE SEATS IN THE AGARIKA-MACHI* WERE STRANGE?
IT'S LIKE "A TEAHOUSE ON A MOUNTAIN PASS."
THIS IS REALLY A COMBINATION TOBACCONIST AND SECOND-HAND STORE.
!!
*THIS IS THE SMALL AREA IN A JAPANESE STYLE HOME OR BUSINESS WHERE ONE REMOVES ONE'S SHOES
BE-BECAUSE IT'S A SHOP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE THAT KIND OF THING IS...
IT WAS REALLY GREAT TIMING BECAUSE I WAS LOOKING FOR AN OWNER FOR THAT BOX
HEE HEE HEE!
EXCUSE M--
YOU'RE LAUGHING TOO MUCH.
AH HA HA HA HA HA!

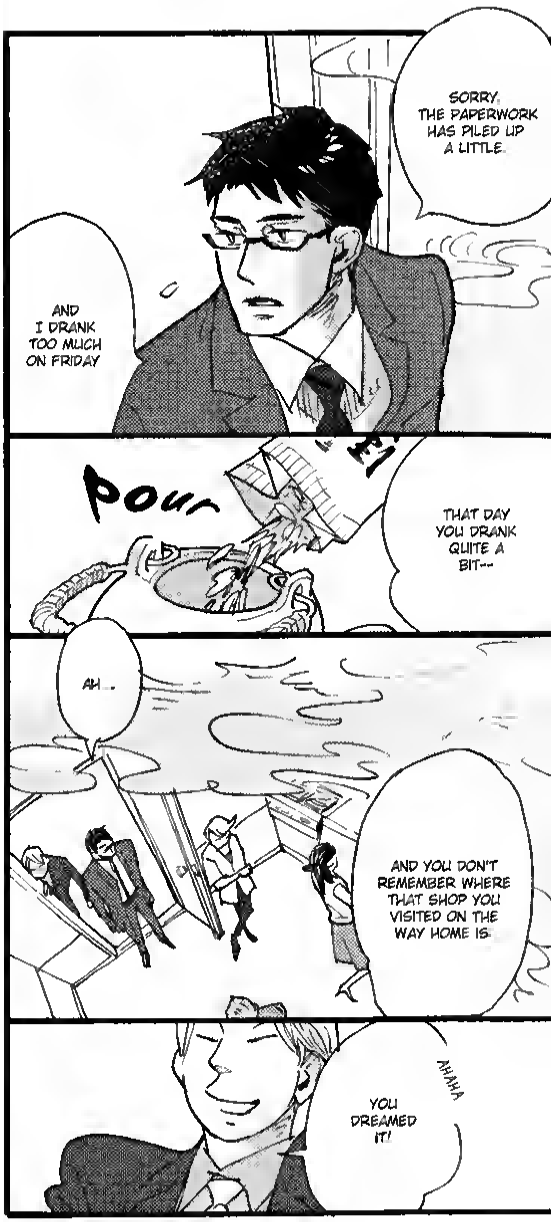
DROP IN FOR COFFEE AGAIN...
SFX: STOP
THANKS
FOR THE COFFEE...
Tobacconist
TAKE CARE ON YOUR WAY!

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE SEEN THEM
...
Pound
Pound
SO CUTE!
AH, THE STARS ARE AMAZING.
exhale
I GUESS I'LL LOOK FOR IT TOMORROW.

WHEN I WENT TO VISIT HIM WHILE HE WAS SICK,
HE SEEMED TO BE GETTING ALONG WITH HIS WIFE REALLY WELL TOO...
OH, LAST MONTH?
THE INITIAL PROBLEMS MUST'VE BEGUN RIGHT AFTER THAT.
IT'S JUST LIKE THE CHIEF TO NOT GIVE UP UNTIL THE ISSUES WERE RESOLVED
THAT'S WHAT'S REALLY GREAT ABOUT HIM.
EEEHH
HIS WIFE IS SO SENSITIVE...
WELL, BUT...

DON'T YOU THINK--
IT'S NOT NORMAL FOR HER TO JUST THROW HIM OUT LIKE THAT.
SFX: OPEN
AH!
IS THERE ANY HOT COFFEE?
drop
?
ISN'T THAT JUST TOO COLD?
WHOA--!
THAT'S RIGHT
WON'T YOU COME OUT FOR DINNER WITH EVERYONE TONIGHT?
COFFEE
cough
cough
WELL, THERE'S ENOUGH STEAMED GREEN TEA FOR EVERYBODY--
BUT SECTION CHIEF
YOUR STOMACH ISN'T HEALED YET.

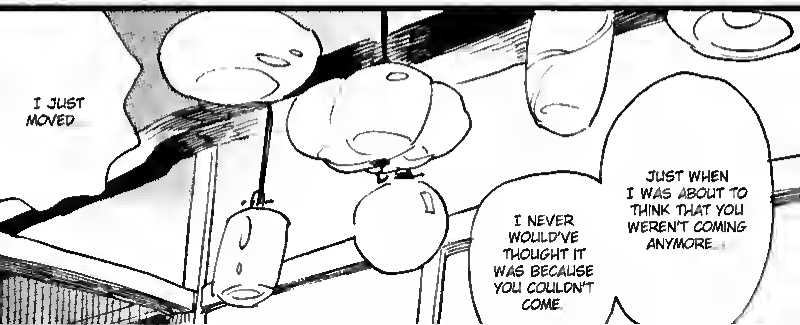
A dream?
It can't be.
It was definitely behind this alleyway.


SORRY. THE PAPERWORK HAS PILED UP A LITTLE.
AND I DRANK TOO MUCH ON FRIDAY
POUR
THAT DAY YOU DRANK QUITE A BIT--
AH..
AND YOU DON'T REMEMBER WHERE THAT SHOP YOU VISITED ON THE WAY HOME IS.
AHAHA
YOU DREAMED IT!

I opened all the boxes in the room, but I couldn't find it.
IT'S BECOME SUCH A MESS...
DARK DARK DARK
THIS IS THE WRONG WAY.
SFX: STEP STEP
How long?
AAH.
I WANT COFFEE.
It seems...
How long will bad things keep happening to me?

as if I'm
in a long,
long tunnel.
rub
MY EYES
ARE TIRED.

OH...!
HUH?
OHHHH--


I JUST MOVED
I NEVER WOULD'VE THOUGHT IT WAS BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T COME.
JUST WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO THINK THAT YOU WEREN'T COMING ANYMORE...

rattle
IF I HAD A SIGNBOARD LIKE A TEA CEREMONY ROOM,
YOU WOULDN'T LOSE YOUR WAY!
rattle
SO...
WELL, THIS...
IT HAS TOO MANY DRAWERS
OR THIS?
IT'S MADE OF GLASS
WHAT ABOUT THIS?
ER.
WELL...
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
SCARY!
rattle
TOO HARD TO OPEN
TOO BIG

FOR NOW, LET'S HAVE SOME COFFEE.
. . THEN, COULD I ASK HOW MANY THERE ARE?
BY THE WAY, WHAT ARE THOSE DOCUMENTS?
OH
IT'S
IT'S INCREASED A LITTLE.
HAS THE AMOUNT CHANGED?
I LIKE NOVELS
DO YOU WRITE?

IT'S--
blusssh
IT'S HARDLY ANYTHING IMPORTANT LIKE THAT--
AT ALL
THEY'RE JUST MEMOS WITH SUGGESTIONS WRITTEN FOR PEOPLE TO READ-- NOTHING OF VALUE.
THAT SORT OF THING.
HEH HEH
UP UNTIL NOW, THIS IS THE BEST TALK WE'VE HAD, ISN'T IT?
I WONDER IF BEING UNTALKATIVE ALLOWS THE WORDS TO COME MORE EASILY WHEN WRITING.
I'M A COMPLETE CHATTERBOX, SO.

YOU'RE VERY ENTERTAINING.
I ADDED VARNISH AND GOLD DUST ONTO IT.
YES, I WAS CARELESS WHILE WASHING UP.
DID THIS GET BROKEN?
You are also a playboy!!
SINCE HE RAISED ME IN PLACE OF MY PARENTS, IT'S POSSIBLE I TAKE AFTER HIM.
HAHA!
IF MY LATE GRANDFATHER FINDS OUT, HE'LL CURSE ME.
IT WAS ACTUALLY ONE OF OUR RARE AUTHENTIC ANTIQUES

A SAND-COLORED BOWL WITH PATCHES OF GOLD.
AND BECAUSE OF THAT, IT'S CUTE.
EXTREMELY
WHETHER IT'S ADORABLE OR PERFECT,
IS IT SO HARD TO EXPLAIN QUALITY IN ORDINARY TERMS..?
OH.
...YOU SAY "CUTE" A LOT.
THE GIRLS AT MY COMPANY SAY THAT EVERY DAY TOO
UH—

IF PERHAPS THE SIZES OF OUR HANDS ARE THE SAME, THEN...
THE FEELING WHEN YOU HOLD IT...
I KNEW THERE WAS A RESEMBLANCE
HOW DOES IT FEEL?
The gentle atmosphere that he creates
HUH?
OH
WELL,

I LIKE IT.
Why did this word ...?
Am I making excuses to someone else?
I have no right to express regret.
OH, THAT'S IT!

I USE THE WORD "CUTE" IN PLACE OF SAYING, "I LIKE IT."

IF...
IF I MAY HAVE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS...
OH!
I'LL GET MINE TOO!
MY BUSINESS CARD.
I'M POSITIVE THERE'S A LETTER BOX WITH THE EXACT SPECIFICATIONS YOU'RE LOOKING FOR AROUND HERE
I'LL CONTACT YOU ONCE I FIND IT.
WELL, ASAKURA-SAN.
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO MY "CLITE BOX"

I feel like I have a mountain of things I want to write about.
IT'S A MYSTERY
Is it the caffeine in my system?
flash
Message Center
Masako
Office
beep
click click
WHO'S THIS MESSAGE FROM?

METRO DOG CHAPTER 11 END

METRO DOG

BY KUSAMA SAKAE

TRANSLATOR: KOKIDEN
PROOFREADER: AMONDEREVEX
EDITOR: ABSCONDITE
QCERS: MIGHTYMAEVE
& MOUSEY

THE MOON IN A BOX SCANLATIONS

Right after moving, on my way home from work,
A STRAY DOG?
I spotted a filthy dog walking along the subway platform.
Was there no one waiting for it?
Had it been abandoned?
TURN
It appeared battered and aimless.

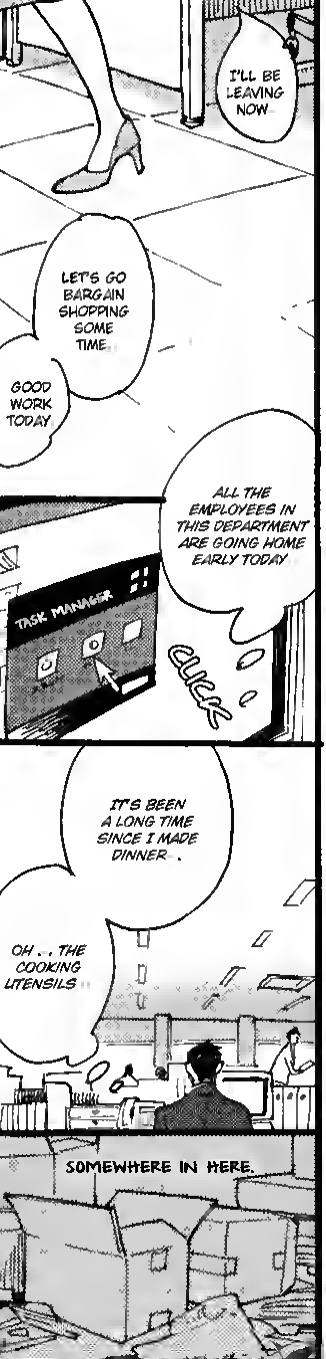
METRO DOG

CHAPTER 2

WHO--
STACCTLE
TSK!
I HAVE TO CALL HER..
GFX_CHIME
CALL
WHO THE HELL?
?
EXCUSE ME, IT'S ME UM..
IN THE PROCESS OF ADDING YOUR NUMBER TO MY PHONE, I ENDED UP CALLING YOU BY ACCIDENT
HUFF
..OH, IT'S YOU

ALSO...
I WAS CONCERNED ABOUT WHETHER YOU'RE WEARING YOUR GLASSES AS YOU SHOULD.
SINCE THE RIVER'S THERE, AND IT'S DANGEROUS...
ER...
IT MIGHT BE JUST A PRETEXT, BUT...
GULP
I'VE ALREADY LEARNED HOW TO GET HOME WITHOUT HAVING TO WEAR THEM.
THAT'S GOOD.
TRUST
IT WAS AN EXPERIMENT.
AHAHA
AN EXPERIMENT?
YES.
IF I FOCUSED ON TRYING TO AVOID HAZARDOUS OBSTACLES,

I THOUGHT I COULD GET AWAY WITHOUT HAVING TO THINK ABOUT ANYTHING
BUT COFFEE WORKS BETTER FOR ME
...HUH?
OH, I CAN SEE MY PLACE NOW.
WE'LL TALK SOON
SHINODA-SAN
HM?
SINCE THE STORE IS OPEN EVERY DAY
WON'T YOU PLEASE DROP BY?
OH?


I'LL BE LEAVING NOW...
LET'S GO BARGAIN SHOPPING SOME TIME...
GOOD WORK TODAY
ALL THE EMPLOYEES IN THIS DEPARTMENT ARE GOING HOME EARLY TODAY
TASK MANAGER
CLICK
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I MADE DINNER...
OH... THE COOKING UTENSILS...
SOMEWHERE IN HERE.

EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR?
THAT MEANS YOU DON'T HAVE ANY SCHEDULED HOLIDAYS.
AH HA HA HA...
UH...
Y-YEAH. BUT I DO CLOSE THE SHOP SOMETIMES FOR BUSINESS...

*T/N: TENZARU IS A TYPE OF SOBA/UDON. IT COMES WITH THE TRADITIONAL COLD NOODLES/DIPPING SAUCE AND THEN AN ORDER OF TEMPURA
SOME BEER WITH TENZARU..*
AAH...
GOOD WORK TODAY, SECTION CHIEF.
OH
TODAY, SHOULD I GO HAVE SOBA?
BESIDES, I DON'T HAVE ANY SPICES.
AH...
Yamada Coffee
I GOT IT FROM A SHOP NEAR WORK.
OHH-- THIS IS SO DELICIOUS!
SMELLS GOOD
HE'S REALLY ENJOYING IT.

I WONDER IF LIFE IS HARD FOR HIM...
STARE
NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY OTHER CUSTOMERS IN THIS SHOP.
ER...
UM...
YOU SAID I RESEMBLED SOMEONE...
THAT PERSON..
WAS IT.. PERHAPS .. YOUR WIFE ...?
WIFE
WIFE?
NO, IT WAS MY EX-WIFE
OH, NO, IT WASN'T MY WIFE IT WAS FROM WHEN I WAS IN SCHOOL...
WELL, WHATEVER IF I TOLD HIM I'M DIVORCED, THAT WOULD JUST MAKE THINGS MORE COMPLICATED

SIGN: TOBACCONIST
WELL, A KID FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD OR SOMETHING IS FINE. .
NO
IT WAS A KOUHAI AT UNIVERSITY WHO CONFESSED TO ME...
HUH?
OH, SORRY YOU DON'T REALLY WANT TO HEAR ABOUT THIS, RIGHT?
N-NO! WHAT ABOUT HIM?
I TURNED HIM DOWN FROM THE START
WHETHER IT WAS THINKING OF SOMEONE AS IMPORTANT,
OR TAKING GOOD CARE OF THEM...
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN REALLY BAD AT THAT SORT OF THING.

HUH?
A PRO, SO TO SPEAK
YOU'RE GOOD AT THAT SORT OF THING, AREN'T YOU?
BUT YOU...
BUT I'M THE ONE WHO BROKE THIS!
OH THAT'S TRUE
BUT STILL...
IT'S TAKING SOME TIME TO CLEAR OUT THE STORAGE SHED.
CAN YOU WAIT A LITTLE FOR YOUR BOX, SHINODA-SAN?
AH!

I THINK...
IT'D BE NICE IF I STARTED WRITING SOMETHING NEW AND DIFFERENT
BECAUSE OF THE MOVE
I'VE LOST WHAT I WAS GOING TO PUT IN THERE ANYWAY
WHENEVER IS FINE
EH?
RAMEN
RING
HELLO?
I'M ALMOST FINISHED!
SECTION CHIEF, YOU STILL HAVEN'T GOTTEN RID OF THE CARDBOARD BOXES!?

OH, YES, HIS STOMACH SEEMS A LOT BETTER.
RIGHT NOW I'M GOING TO GET SODA WITH EVERYONE
I'M HAPPY HE'S HEALTHY
...IS THAT RIGHT?
SORRY ABOUT THE STRANGE PHONE CALL DON'T TELL SHINODA ABOUT IT, OKAY?
...ALL RIGHT
WHO IS IT, PLEASE?
OH, UH.
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME!
!
WELL, IT WAS MORE LIKE JUST WANDERING
WHA-?! THAT DREAM SHOP WAS REALLY REAL!?
YEAH
IT'S IN THE ALLEY BEHIND THE TEA CEREMONY CLASSROOM
NO WAY!
I WONDER WHY THEY BROKE UP..
CUTTER

WHY'D YOU EVEN GO INTO A PLACE LIKE THAT IN THE FIRST PLACE?
HUH...?
AH...
IT WAS BECAUSE I WAS WALKING WITH MY HEAD DOWN.
Just like that dog...
THUMP
KACHACK

ASAKURA-SA--
Signs of someone else having just been here...
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE BROKEN CUP?
Cigarettes and coffee--
PRETTY CUPS...
OH! SHINODA-SAN!
OH, THAT TEA WAS FROM MY TEACHER WHO CAME BY.
Other than myself.
UH, WHO...?

IS THAT RICE? IT LOOKS HEAVY. GO AHEAD AND PUT IT DOWN
RICE
COME IN NOW AND HAVE SOME COFFEE.
I JUST--
CLATTER
HE'S ALWAYS GORGEOUS IN HIS KIMONO.
I WANTED YOU TO MEET HIM TOO, BUT...
TABACCO
たばこ
I JUST REMEMBERED I HAVE SOME ERRANDS

SL
AM
HAA HAA
HUH?
HAA
HAA
HAA
GULP
...THAT WAS KIND OF STRANGE...
MOUNTAIN WATER
GL UG
RUSTLE
THUD
HAA
NO, RATHER THAN STRANGE...

CLICK
I'D BETTER APOLOGIZE.
WIPE
I HAVE A FEELING I WAS EXTREMELY RUDE.
SHOULD I E-MAIL HIM?
OR CALL?
UH THIS IS SHINODA.
SFX: BANG
.NO, WHENEVER IS FINE
I WANTED TO FIND A BOX FOR YOU QUICKLY, BUT. .
ARE YOU SURPRISED IT'S NOTHING BUT TRASH?
SFX: CLATTER RUMBLE

THE PLAN THAT CAME OUT OF THE OTHER DAY'S APOLOGY.
HERE.
THANKS.
PAT PAT
IT'S YOUR LONG-AWAITED SUNDAY,
BUT HERE YOU ARE HELPING ME CLEAR OUT THE STORAGE SHED
SHAAAA
NOT A PROBLEM
YOU EVEN MADE BENTO!
REALLY !?
YOU LIKE TO COOK?
IT HAD BEEN SO LONG SINCE I'D HAD SO MUCH FUN, THAT I MADE TOO MUCH
IT'S BECAUSE I DID A CLEANING AT MY PLACE YESTERDAY AS WELL... AND THIS MEAL..

I STARTED WHEN I DECIDED TO BE SOME HELP TO MY MOTHER
MY MOM WAS A SINGLE PARENT...
...OH, BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN THEM FOR A LONG TIME.
A LONG TIME?
I WANTED TO MAKE HER MORE COMFORTABLE, BUT...
YOU SHOULD TRY TO BE TO BE A GOOD SON TOO WHILE YOU STILL HAVE THE CHANCE
BUT SHE DIED THE YEAR AFTER I STARTED WORKING FOR A CORPORATION...
AS LONG AS TWELVE YEARS.
SET DOWN

OH, THE TEACUPS--
IS
YOU NEED SOMETHING MORE BASIC THAN LAYING IMPORTANCE ON PRIN-CIPLES--
AT IS I WAS DIS-INHERITED
AND MY GRANDFATHER TOOK CUSTODY OF ME
...OR, WELL...
It's better if I don't ask him why.

If that's his reason for feeling he resembles him...
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT
...?
SFX GLUG
OH
THAT BOWL.
SET DOWN
HUH?
ER...
OH, IT'S NOTHING
THIS BOWL LOOKS REALLY GOOD, SO THE FOOD IN IT LOOKS DELICIOUS, TOO
IS IT FOR SALE?

IT'LL BE HARD ON YOUR WIFE.
MUNCH
MUNCH
BUT IF IT'S SO DELICIOUS,
...BUT...
I'M FULL
AS A MARRIED COUPLE, WE ALMOST ALWAYS EAT OUT
UGH.
I DIDN'T SAY "EX-WIFE" AGAIN ANOTHER COAT OF VARNISH ON THE LIE
...BUT, WELL... THAT'S FINE

Just like this...
Staying just like this...
That's what's important.
RUMBLE
WOULD YOU LIKE ANY MORE TO EAT?
YOU MANAGED TO EAT A LOT...
THEIR FACES ARE SIMILAR... BUT...
HE'S... SHORTER
If things are like this, then I can go on without upsetting him.

CREAK
HUH?
CREAK

CREAK
CREAK
SOMETHING TOUCHED ME JUST NOW
SIT UP
CREAK
?
AH!
AWKWARD

J-
JUST NOW.
I'M SORRY-- I'M...
And that's how something can be broken so easily.
NOT HOMO-SEXUAL.

Chien
dans
métro

METRO DOG

BY KUSAMA SAKAE

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& MOUSEY

THE MOON IN A BOX SCANLATIONS

METRO DOG

CHAPTER 3

JUST NOW..
I WAS ONLY TRYING TO GET SOME SAWDUST OFF YOU
NOTHING MORE
I KNOW. NEAR MY EYES, RIGHT?
How can I change it?
S-
SORRY
IT'S...
IT'S NOT AS IF I HID THE FACT THAT I'M GAY...

How can we go back to the way we were before?
I'M VERY SORRY FOR SAYING SOMETHING RUDE
HOWEVER...
NOTHING REALLY HAS CHANGED
WE CAN BE AS WE WERE BEFORE
I'M THE SAME PERSON I WAS WHEN I MET YOU
AS WE WERE BEFORE?
SINCE THEN, I'VE TOUCHED YOU FOUR TIMES.

I PRETENDED TO CALL YOU BY ACCIDENT.
TO BE AS WE WERE. .
TODAY YOU ARE THE YOU WHO I KNEW
AFTER THIS, WILL YOU BE ABLE TO PRETEND AS IF
YOU AREN'T AWARE OF EACH AND EVERY TRIVIAL THING?

SHINODA-SAN, SURELY--
With my mom, with my lovers, and with my wife...
YOU WON'T COME HERE ANYMORE.
I couldn't go back to the way it was before.

And perhaps I cannot return to how things were with him.
THUD
RUSTLE
ROLL
IS IT ALREADY EVENING?
HAA.
ROLL
ROLL

HERE .
My daily necessities have changed completely.
My body still hasn't gotten used to this room.
I don't have a single precious possession.

For me, there is nothing
NOTHING?
I SHOULD GET HER TO GIVE IT BACK
THAT'S RIGHT
BECAUSE I WORKED ON IT FOR SO LONG,
IT MUST BE SOMETHING IMPORTANT
SPLASH
THAT'S RIGHT

SFX SPLASH
SHOULD I HAVE SAID THAT INSTEAD?
OH... MY CELL PHONE?
SHINODA-SAN'S..!?
PUBLIC
WHY'D HE HAVE TO FORGET ABOUT THIS WHEN HE LEFT?
BUT IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S HIM
WHAT'S MORE, DON'T TELL ME THIS IS HIM CALLING TO LOOK FOR IT?
FROM HERE, LET'S CONTINUE AS WE WERE

WON'T IT BE AWKWARD?
BUT
I'LL BE ABLE TO HEAR HIS VOICE.
CLICK
SHINODA-SAN?
SECTION CHIEF--

SEEMS LIKE IT'S DOIN' A NUMBER ON YOUR STOMACH. YOU PROBABLY SHOULD STOP.
SHE HAS SOMETHING OF MINE THAT I'D LIKE BACK IMMEDIATELY.
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING IN THE PHONE BOOK?
I HAVE SOME BUSINESS WITH MY EX-WIFE, AND PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO CONTACT HER HAVE COME TO NOTHING
OH, WELL, YOU SHOULD USE YOUR CELL PHONE TO CALL HER
WHAT?
THAT'S WHY I DON'T HAVE HER NUMBER.
I... LOST MY CELL PHONE.

HAVEN'T YOU BEEN LOSING THINGS A LOT LATELY, SECTION CHIEF?
AH !
IF IT WERE ME, I'D TAKE OFF WORK AND LOOK FOR IT.
REALLY ?
STEP
HUH?
PUNCH
SW
ISH
SECTION CHIEF
WELL, IT WAS ANNOYING ME THE WAY YOU AND THE SECTION CHIEF WERE CHATTING TOGETHER.
THAT HURT MY BACK!
SW
AP
I HAVE YOUR WIFE'S CELL PHONE NUMBER

I KNEW THERE WAS SOMETHING YOU WERE DOING EVERY NIGHT, BUT...
YOU WERE WRITING THIS
Y-
YOU READ IT!?
HEH.
I WAS WORRIED WHEN YOU DIDN'T RETURN MY CALLS.
SO I HID MY EMBARRASSMENT AND ASKED YOUR SUBORDINATES ABOUT YOU
IF I HADN'T LOOKED INSIDE, I WOULD'VE THROWN IT AWAY.
SO I'VE COME TO RETURN IT TO YOU QUICKLY.

SORRY...
AH... IT'S ALL RIGHT
IS THAT SO?
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE ASKED ANYTHING OF ME.
IT IS
YOU WERE ABLE TO DO EVERYTHING BY YOURSELF,
YOU NEVER DEPENDED ON ME FOR ANYTHING, RIGHT?
EVEN WHEN YOU COLLAPSED, YOU ARRANGED EVERYTHING ON YOUR OWN
I UNDERSTAND.
THAT'S BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO CAUSE YOU ANY SUFFERING

EVEN THOUGH YOU TREATED ME WELL,
YOU NEVER EXPECTED ANY KIND OF RESPONSE FROM ME.
?
BUT
YOU TREATED ME AS IF I WAS ON AN ALTAR OR SOMETHING, RIGHT?
YOU UNDER-STOOD!?
SCRATCH
GULP
JUST LIKE A DECORATIVE VASE THAT'S TOO GOOD TO BE USED?
AH...
SOMEONE TAUGHT ME THAT.

THAT...
I WOULD'VE REALLY LIKED IT IF YOU HAD LET ME READ THAT EARLIER.
CLASH
WELL... GOOD, THEN.
OH, I HAVE TO GET BACK TO THE OFFICE
SEE YOU.
IT MADE ME FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU AGAIN A LITTLE.
YOUR CELL PHONE.
YOU LEFT IT IN A BAR OR A COFFEE SHOP.
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
OH!

What was my reason for wanting to "go back to the way things were"?
SCRAPE
AN EMPLOYEE OF THE SHOP ANSWERED IT. HE WAS CRYING.
BOY, WAS I SURPRISED!
Because that dog scared me.
So I could calm down.
STEP
STEP
So I could drink coffee.

They're all just rising up from my complicated feelings.
SHINODA-SAN.
None of these reasons are the essential one.
Because it made the way home fun.
Because I want to write about many things.
Because the stars are beautiful.

OH!
Y-YOUR CELL PHONE.
YOU CAME QUICK.
NO
PLEASE WAIT
I...

MY REASON FOR COMING HERE IS...
TO SEE YOU.
HAA
H'AA
SINCE WAY BACK, I HAVEN'T REALLY TRUSTED MY OWN FEELINGS.
SO.
WHOA!
STAGGER
BECAUSE TO GO BACK TO THE OLD WAY
ISN'T--

ARE YOU OKAY?
HAA
IT'S BECAUSE I RAN PART OF THE WAY...
WHEEZE
COME TO THINK OF IT, I'VE BEEN ASHAMED SINCE OUR FIRST MEETING.
...BUT YOU'RE SO CUTE LIKE THAT.
IS THAT THE "CUTE" THAT MEANS "I LIKE YOU"?
EVEN THOUGH I'M NOT HOMOSEXUAL ...

I'LL MEET YOU HALFWAY
BUT
IT'LL BE IMPOSSIBLE WHEN IT COMES TO PENETRATION
WH-
WHAT KIND OF TALK IS THIS?
BEFORE, WHEN I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT MY COLLEGE DAYS--
THAT I RESEMBLE HIM!?
UH..
WAS IT A MAN?
AND I MIGHT DISAPPOINT YOU..

BACK THEN...
I CERTAINLY THOUGHT I LOVED HIM, BUT
IT WAS IMPOS-SIBLE
HOWEVER...
I'M STILL INCORRIGIBLY
...EXPERIENCING FEELINGS OF LOVE FOR YOU
SOFTLY
I'M..

...YOUR HAND...
IT FITS JUST RIGHT?
VERY MUCH.
!
!
KISS
KISS
THUMP
OUCH.

AREN'T YOU ACTING MORE
MANLY THAN USUAL?
I'M AT THE END OF MY ROPE.
SLIDE
HAVEN'T CONSIDERED THAT I MIGHT ENTER YOU. ?
PERHAPS
YOU

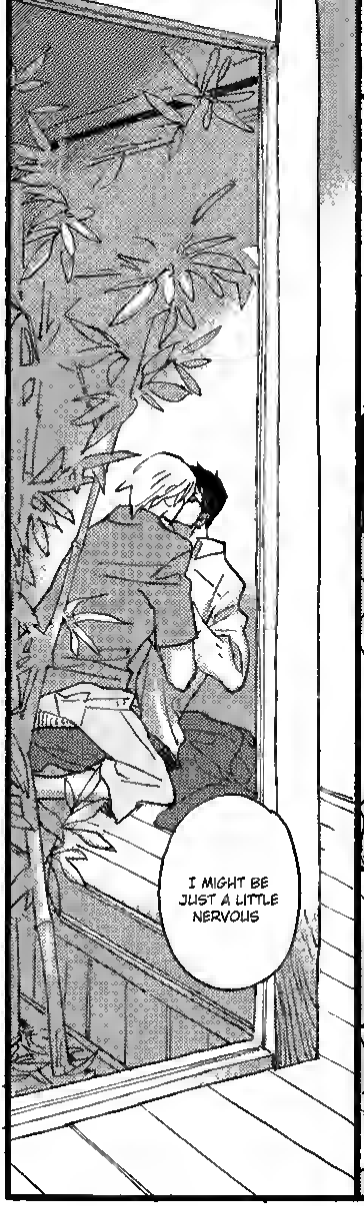
STARTLE
!
THAT'S FINE.
I GET THE FEELING...
HE'LL BE COLD TO THE TOUCH

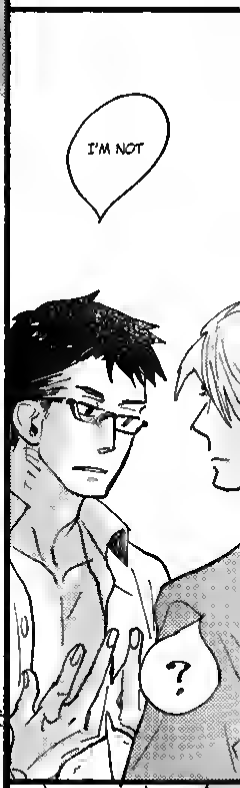
HAA
UNH
AH!
WAI--
GRASP
H-HOLD ON!

P-PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF WE'VE GONE TOO FAR.
HE'S DROOL-ING.
IT'S FINE.
NO..
IT'S JUST THAT I FELT LIKE I WAS ABOUT TO COME.
S-
SORRY SHOULD I STOP?
..NO, THAT WOULD BE..
B-BUT IF I WERE TO THRUST INTO YOU AGAINST YOUR WILL, THEN--!!
I DON'T WANT YOU TO HATE ME.
PLEASE STOP ME.

Complicated and honest...
WHAT'S THIS?
Ah, you are
terribly cute.
HOW CAN YOU BE SO CALM?
I COULDN'T HATE YOU
BUT WOULD IT BE OKAY IF WE TRIED PENETRATION THE NEXT TIME...?

STEAM


I MIGHT BE JUST A LITTLE NERVOUS


I'M NOT
?

CLENCH

BUT NOW IS THE BEST TIME...
RUSTLE
DON'T READ IT IN FRONT OF ME...!
HOW FAR ALONG YOU ARE WITH READING IT-!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME
DENIED!
SO...
WELL, I'LL DO IT LATER AND TAKE MY TIME.

WHILE SHINODA-SAN IS IN THE BATH
WHOA!
SENSEI
GIMME A PACK OF UNFILTERED PEACE.*
*T/N: PEACE IS A BRAND OF CIGARETTES IN JAPAN
!?
WHAT'S THIS?
WHAT'S WITH THAT LOUSY REPAIR!?
I'M BUSTED!
WHEN YOUR GRANDFATHER DIED, YOU WOULDN'T SELL IT TO ME.
AND NOW YOU'VE BROKEN IT!

I'll set my sights on his lighted door.
!
THAT'S HIS "TEA SENSEI" ...?
SLOSH
Tomorrow night, all the way from the subway platform

METRO DOG

BY KUSAMA SAKAE

TRANSLATOR: KOKIDEN
PROOFREADER: AMONDEREVEX
CLEANER: GIGGLZ
TYPESETTER: ABSCONDITE
QCERS: MIGHTYMAEVE
& MOUSEY

THE MOON IN A BOX SCANLATIONS

I CAN'T UNDRESS YOU WITHOUT TAKING THESE OFF, RIGHT?
THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
A company man who was good at cooking.
A thought-ful man of few words.
PLEASE WAIT A LITTLE!
We met a little less than a year ago...
When he wondered out the door, about food.

PLEASE WAIT ALL RIGHT?
TALK
UNDO
AAAH!
I'LL TAKE IT OFF FOR YOU, SO JUST WAIT A SECOND!
LIKE I SAID!
This older man, Shimoda-san, is
My lover.
METRO DOG
DOGS PLAYING POKER

He stays here with me four times a week.
He keeps a variety of dress shirts, suits, and ties here.
MM...
BLOCK
In view of that, maybe it's time for us to start living together?
HAVE A GOOD DAY.
YOU TOO.
ABRUPTLY
I'M LEAVING.
Is it still too soon?
HAVE A GOOD DAY.

SHINODA-SAN, HERE!
!
ACHOO!
WRAP
STEP
TAKE YOUR SCARF WITH YOU.
Am I being too clingy?
JUST A WAY TO DETAIN YOU A LITTLE BIT.
THANK YOU.

On the days he stays with me, he told me he'd make his own bentou.
CLATTER
EVEN THOUGH HE SEEMS VERY BUSY LATELY,
I WISH IT'D HURRY UP AND BE 12 O'CLOCK ALREADY
WHEN HE COMES HOME IN THE EVENINGS, HE MAKES DINNER AS WELL FOR ME...
OH, THAT'S RIGHT...
.....

SO, MY CAR WAS BROKEN INTO...
THEY BROKE THE PASSENGER SIDE WINDOW TO STEAL TEN BUCKS!!
HOW DANGEROUS
BUT THEY DIDN'T FIND THE RING I BOUGHT FOR MY GIRLFRIEND!
IS IT HER BIRTHDAY?
HAVE SOME TEA
THANKS
NO, WE HAD A FIGHT LAST WEEK...
BUT I'M NOT REALLY MAD AT HER

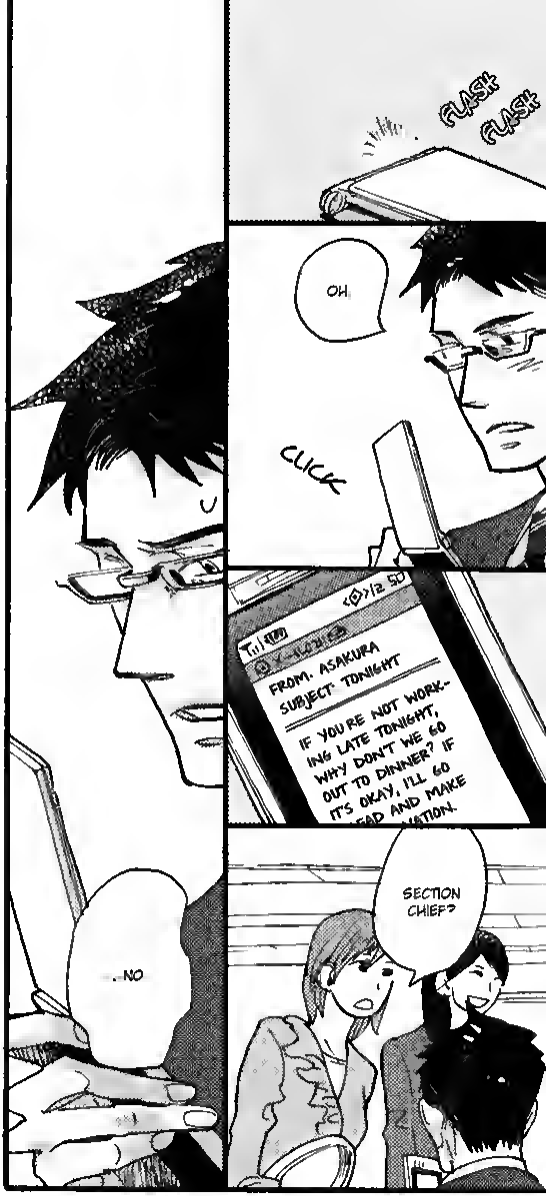
CLIN
CLIN
CLIN
CLIN
YEP
SO IRRITATING!
HE'S SO ANNOYING!
SURPRISE!
I'LL SAY "FORGIVE ME!" AND THEN
BUT IF SHE REALIZES YOUR ANGER IS JUST A BLUFF,
WON'T IT MAKE THINGS WORSE?
WHEN HE SAID "BLUFF," WHAT DID HE ..?
I SEE, SO THAT'S YOUR TRUMP CARD
SHE'S REEEEEALLY BEEN WANTING THIS RING, THOUGH

YEAH
WHEN PLAYING CARDS, DON'T YOU USE THE WORD "HATTARI" INSTEAD?
BUT SINCE YOU HAVE A POKER FACE, CHIEF, YOU MUST BE ABLE TO USE IT IN EVERYDAY LIFE, RIGHT?
PLUNK
I'VE NEVER BARGAINED OR GAMBLED, THOUGH
AH, THERE'S MORE TEA.
NO, I'M FINE, THANKS
I'M NOT HUNGRY TODAY.
HUH?

*TAI SHINODA WAS USING THE ENGLISH WORD "BLUFF," (BELOW) BUT HIS COLLEAGUE IS POINTING OUT THAT FOR CARDS YOU'D USE THE JAPANESE WORD "HATTARI."

GOOD AS ALWAYS!
THEN I'LL TAKE YOUR OMELET!
THE SECTION CHIEF'S MEALS ARE REALLY WHAT I'D CALL A TRUMP CARD!
I'M IN LOVE!
ME TOO!
PUNCH! PUNCH!
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KIDS WHO'VE LEFT THEIR LUNCHES AT HOME?
MY EX-WIFE USED TO SAY THAT KIND OF THING, TOO.
COME TO THINK OF IT,
DURING THE YEAR BEFORE WE SPLIT UP, I HAD GOTTEN REALLY BUSY...
AND I WAS UNABLE TO DO MUCH COOKING

CLUNK
HE TURNED ME DOWN.
EVEN THOUGH I THOUGHT IT'D BE NICE IF HE COULD RELAX AND ENJOY HIMSELF EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE...


FLASH
FLASH
OH
CLICK
FROM: ASAKURA
SUBJECT: TONIGHT
IF YOU'RE NOT WORKING LATE TONIGHT, WHY DON'T WE GO OUT TO DINNER? IF IT'S OKAY, I'LL GO
...NO
SECTION CHIEF?

SAY, BUDDY, LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE A LOT OF CIGARETTES THERE...
PEEVED
PEEVED
URGH!
CLOSE
I'M SURE YOU CAN AFFORD TO GIVE A GUY A PACK
NO, I CAN'T
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I WONDER IF SHINOD-SAN DISLIKES IT.
GOING OUT FOR A DATE IS SOMETHING LOVERS DO, BUT...

DIDN'T HE ACCOST YOU?
GRAB
JUST A DRUNK.
SCUFF
SCUFF
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
STEP
WELCOME HOME.
WHY ARE YOU REFILLING THE MACHINES AT THIS HOUR?
I WAS...
RUSTLE
WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER TO DO IT IN THE DAYTIME?
CRASH
...waiting for you.

Even though I'm being scolded, he's the one that's troubled.
AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT, IT'S DANGEROUS!
I WONDER IF HE'S EVEN AWARE HOW GLOOMY HE SEEMS
SHUFFLE
Y-
YES!?
DO YOU UNDER-STAND!?
YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND
HOW IMPORTANT YOU ARE TO ME!

I WANT TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOU, SO
I WORRY A LOT ABOUT YOU.
EVEN THOUGH PEOPLE ARE BREAKING CAR WINDOWS TO STEAL TEN BUCKS--
I'M MIDDLE-AGED!
THE ONLY THING I CAN DO FOR YOU IS COOK YOUR MEALS.
GENTLY
SHINODA-SAN

HEARING YOU...
HEARING YOU SPEAK SO INCOHERENTLY, I THINK YOU MUST HAVE A FEVER.
U
U
SIT HERE, PLEASE.
LEAVE DINNER TO ME.
NO.
I SAID THAT THAT WAS THE ONLY THING OF VALUE I COULD DO FOR YOU, DIDN'T I?
U
GRAB
I DON'T THINK THAT IT GIVES YOU "VALUE."
HUH?

I WOULD USE THE WORD "LOVE"
ABOUT YOUR COOKING, SHINODA-SAN.
BECAUSE I THINK IT'S THE SAME AS A KISS
SERIOUSLY, I...
COVER
SO FOR TODAY, IT'S A KISS INSTEAD!
IT'S FINE
I'M CONTAGIOUS!
I HAVE A FEELING I'LL NEVER WIN WITH YOU.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF GETTING A DOG?
BECAUSE OF THAT, I WAS THINKING ..
A DOG?
I'VE NEVER HAD ONE
AND THAT WOULD BE A HELP TO ME TOO
AND HE COULD GUARD YOU WHEN YOU TAKE WALKS
AND YOU SHOULD REFILL THE MACHINES DURING THE DAY.

THE SECTION CHIEF HAS A COLD AND IS TAKING THE DAY OFF!

THAT'S SUCH AN OBVIOUS TRICK, BUT...
I WAS TAKEN IN ANYWAY.

BUT
IF YOU ALSO LIVED HERE...
GLANCE

I WONDER IF HE'S OKAY, SINCE HE LIVES ALONE?
HM? IS THAT TRUE, I WONDER?
THE SECTION CHIEF ALWAYS HAS HOMEMADE BENTOU, THOUGH.
BUT THE OKAZU* NEVER HAVE A CENTER, RIGHT?
WHAT THE HELL?
WHAT, DO YOU THINK HE HAS AN "EDGE" OBSESSION?
ISN'T IT LOVE..
PLAIN AND SIMPLE?

*T/N. SIDE DISHES EATEN WITH RICE. USUALLY MADE OF FISH, MEAT OR VEGETABLES

METRO DOG

BY KUSAMA SAKAE

TRANSLATOR: KOKIDEN
PROOFREADER: AMONDEREVEX
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& MOUSEY

THE MOON IN A BOX SCANLATIONS

We've been dating for a year and some months.
ARE YOU FINE CARRYING THE STUFF FOR THE VENDING MACHINE?
He's my lover.
IT'S FINE
THE CONVENIENCE STORE OVER THERE IS HAVING A BIG SALE
PANT
PANT
PANT
Recently, I've realized
...that he seems to have a thing about dogs.

WON'T YOU LET ME CARRY YOUR BAG?
I'M FINE!
It would be bad to force the issue, though...
Since I said to him, "If we get a dog, we might as well live together"...
IS THAT SO?
THAT'S TOO BAD.
SFX RATTLE RATTLE

SFX: OPEN
HEY,
AREN'T YOU TOMOKI FROM THE ASAKURA FAMILY?
OH!
HOUGETSU-SAN!
GOING TO TENSHIN-SAMA'S MORNING MARKET?
THAT'S RIGHT.
AREN'T WE?
WE'RE ON A TRIP...
IS THAT WHERE YOU'RE TAKING THAT BIG BAG OF YOURS, OR IS THERE ANOTHER MARKET?
HIS--
WHY IS HE GETTING ME INVOLVED?
OH!
WITH THIS GENTLEMAN?
?

OH, A CUSTOMER!
SOMETHING LIKE
HE WAS HELPING ME FIND A BOX
CIGARETTES? OR ANTIQUES?
HUH?
OH!
THE LETTER CASE WE WERE FIGHTING OVER?
WHOA.
I THOUGHT YOU HAD IT IN YOUR STORAGE ROOM?

CLACK CLACK CLACK
HIS HOME IS NEAR MY SHOP, AND HE COMES BY OFTEN

THAT BOX...
OOPS! GOTTA GO
RUMBLE
WHOOSH
SCREECH
SCREECH
WAH AHA!
IT'S BETTER THAN ALL THAT STUFF IN YOUR GRANDFATHER'S COLLECTION.
BUT...
YOU WERE SO COOL, SHINODA-SAN.
THERE'S ARE FREE SEAT!
YOO-HOO!

PUSH
PUSH
YOO-HOO, ASAKURA-KUN!
SHOVE
WON'T YOU COME TO MOUNT TAKAO* WITH US?
WELL...
YOU HAVEN'T COME BY FOR A LONG TIME WE WERE WORRIED!
LONG TIME NO SEE!
*SEE NOTE ON CREDITS PAGE
OH!
OUR HIKING CLUB CAME TO THIS AREA—
WHAT A SHAME. JUST NOW I'M HEADED TO AN ONSEN
OH MY
OUR STATION IS COMING UP. WHY DON'T YOU TAKE MY SEAT?
STAND
WELL!
WELL!
I'M A CUSTOMER FROM HIS STORE
AND THIS IS...?

M-MISTER!
OH
A FISHING CLUB?
HEY!
YOU HADN'T COME FOR SO LONG, WE THOUGHT YOU'D DIED!
YOU HAVEN'T COME TO THE SHOGI CENTER EITHER.
OH, I PLAY SHOGI AT HOME NOW!
RIGHT?
DRAGGING ME INTO IT AGAIN!

He doesn't have to include me, but...
I'M A CUSTOMER FROM HIS STORE
?
He looks happy, so isn't it all right?
HOW NICE!
WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO AN ONSEN
Hiroshi
NEXT TIME, YOU CAN COME FISHING TOO!
HOPEFULLY NEXT TIME WE TRANSFER, WE WON'T MEET ANYONE ELSE...

OH, ARATA!?
TOMOKI?
IT'S BEEN A WHILE!
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE SUCH A FINE GUY, YOU'RE WEARING GLASSES AGAIN ..
YOU'RE NOT LOOKING ME IN THE EYE
...OF COURSE.
YOU'RE STILL ANGRY WITH ME ABOUT BEFORE.

Aren't we at the station yet!?
I TRIED TO CONTACT YOU ABOUT THAT TIME WE WERE TOGETHER.
I'M JUST REALLY SELFISH...
If we don't get to the station soon...
It's impossible. This time, I don't have the confidence to just tell them!
I can't run from this again!
CLACK
SHUFFLE SHUFFLE SHUFFLE
TO END IT THAT WAY WAS...
I...

!?
GEAR
Open...
HURRY UP, HURRY UP.
I'M SORT OF LIVING WITH THIS GUY
AND RIGHT NOW, WE'RE GOING TO AN ONSEN, SO
SEE YOU.

I'M SORRY, SHINODA-SAN.
THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO...
YEAH.
It's selfish, but...
I WANT TO BRAG TO SOMEONE THAT I'M TAKING A TRIP WITH YOU, TOO.

THANK YOU FOR WAITING.
SHINODA TOMOKI-SAMA?
YES!
WE HAVE A RESERVATION UNDER THE NAME OF SHINODA.
HEY, DON'T PUSH!
?

CATTLE
CATTLE
SLIDE
ASAKURA-KUN
WHOA, WHOA!
ARE YOU ALREADY FINISHED?
WHAT'S HE DOING IN THERE?
ARE YOU FEELING DIZZY? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
RUB
YOUR HAIR IS STILL WET. YOU'LL GET A COLD

KISS
WH-WHY ARE YOU LAUGHING DURING A KISS?
HEH HEH HEH HEH
GLUG
I THINK THAT'S THE FIRST TIME WE'VE KISSED AWAY FROM HOME!
—ALL RIGHT, LET'S DRINK SOME LOCAL SAKE.

YOU HAVE LESS FREE TIME NOW, DON'T YOU?
BUT EVERYONE WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
HUH?
IF I DIDN'T STAY AT YOUR PLACE SO MUCH, THEN MAYBE..
WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT LIVING TOGETHER--!
WH-
SFX SHAKE
I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU HAD SUCH VARIED INTERESTS
EHEHEH
AFTER THAT ONE TIME WE NEVER SPOKE ABOUT LIVING TOGETHER AGAIN.
WHAT? BUT YOU..

THAT TIME
I ASKED YOU THAT TIME YOU SAW THE DOG!
BUT IT SEEMED TO DEPRESS YOU.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I WAS THINKING
I THINK I SAID I WAS SERIOUS ABOUT IT
IN ANY CASE, I HAD VARIOUS REASONS FOR NOT WANTING TO BE ALONE
AT THE SAME TIME MY GRAND-FATHER DIED
THE GUY YOU MET ON THE TRAIN DUMPED ME

...FUN, BUT THEY DON'T REALLY INTEREST ME
THEREFORE, ALL OF THOSE THINGS ARE...
FOR ME, YOU ARE BETTER
THAN ALL THOSE OTHER THINGS.
HE'S PROBABLY TAKING IT A LITTLE TOO SERIOUSLY.
BUT, WELL...

THUMP
SHINODA-SAN
HOLD ON
WE'RE STAYING HERE TWO NIGHTS, RIGHT?
I DON'T MIND IF YOU'RE SERIOUS

IT'S FINE I'VE ALREADY CHANGED THE SHEETS TO THE ONES WE BROUGHT FROM HOME
WE ALSO HAD HEAVY LUGGAGE
...WEREN'T YOU DIZZY JUST NOW...?
IF WE GET THE FUTON DIRTY, WHAT WILL THEY THINK WE'VE BEEN...
WE'RE NOT AT HOME!
WE'LL TAKE THE TRASH AWAY WITH US
BE-
BESIDES...

SLICK
MAYBE SINCE YOU WERE DRINKING EARLIER, YOU WON'T BE ABLE
TO GET IT UP?
SLIDE
AH!
SLIP
SQUELCH
IT FEELS AMAZING INSIDE YOU
WH-
WHOSE FAULT IS THAT?
STILL...

HEH, HEH
IT'S MY FAULT.
HA
HA
!
HA
HEH
YOU'RE HOTTER THAN USUAL INSIDE.
HGH
SQUELCH
SQUELCH
SMEAR
BECAUSE YOU'RE NICE AND HARD.
ARE YOU REALLY DRUNK, I WONDER?
AH!
HA
LICK
!

SLIDE
ENOUGH! I'M FEELING IT NOW!
E-
HA
SHINODA-SAN, YOU PUT A CONDOM ON TOO.
NN
!
SHAKE
AH!
AH.
NN.
SHAKE

SHINODA-SAN.
...I CAME TOO.
HAA
HAA
HUFF
SINCE WE'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING TOMORROW...
PULL OFF
CAN WE DO IT ONE MORE TIME?
NO!
AH!

HEY, SHINODA-SAN?
Look here!
SHINODA-SAN!?
HUH?

EXCUSE ME.
IT WAS LEFT HERE, BUT...
OH NO! IT'S TROUBLE-SOME...
Please adopt me!!
NO.
IF WE TAKE HIM HOME, WE'LL HAVE TO PAY FREIGHT...
YES, BUT WE'D BE SAVING HIM!
LET'S SEE IF WE CAN GET SOME PACKING TAPE...

CATTLE
CATTLE
WHEW!
AT LEAST WE HAVE A RESERVED CABIN
ISN'T IT HOT?
I HAD FUN.
ME TOO.

LET'S DO IT AGAIN, OKAY?
YEAH.
BLACK
BUT NEXT TIME...
LET'S TAKE YOUR FISHING CLUB WITH US.

SHINODA-SAN!
WAIT.
WAIT, WAIT.
GRAB
OH!
REPORTING A CHANGE OF RESIDENCE, I SEE!
YES.

ER..
SECTION CHIEF SHINODA, WHAT'S THIS HERE?
CHANGE OF FAMILY
STARE
CHANGE OF ADDRESS
OH, ER, WELL, WE HAVEN'T REGISTERED YET...
OH, IS THAT SO?
CONGRATULATIONS, THEN!
THANK YOU.

METRO DOG

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THE MOON IN A BOX SCANLATIONS

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ALONG WITH BEING A POPULAR HIKING SPOT, MOUNT TAKAO IS ALSO ASSOCIATED WITH TENGU. TENGU ARE BIRD-LIKE KAMI (REVERED SPIRITS") FROM THE SHINTO PANTHEON WHO ARE KNOWN FOR BEING DANGEROUS BUT PROTECTIVE CREATURES. THE WORD "TENGU" ITSELF MEANS "HEAVENLY DOG" AND IT ORIGINATES FROM THE NAME "TIANGOU" ("CELESTIAL DOG") WHO IS A CHINESE DEMON

WHAT? TOMOKI?
CLATCH
SURPRISED

SHINODA-SAN
WHERE'S GORO?
HE'S WATCHING THE HOUSE
HE DIDN'T NOTICE ME AT FIRST?
ONE MORE, AND I'LL BE DONE.
REFILLING?
IT'S BECAUSE HE'S STILL A PUPPY.
SEEMS LIKE HE GETS TOO EXCITED IN PLACES WITH LOTS OF DOGS.

WHEN ARE YOU GETTING NEW PRODUCTS?
ISN'T THIS A HIGH QUALITY PRODUCT?
THANKS FOR YOUR PATRONAGE!
CATTLE
THANKS FOR WAITING.
HEY SHINODA-SAN!
FROM HERE, HOME IS IN THE OTHER DIRECTION.
AHAHA
THIS IS HOW WE GET BUSINESS.
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE FAR FROM THE SHOP, THIS IS STILL IN YOUR TERRITORY, RIGHT?

A SPORTS CLUB.
ISN'T THERE A POOL SOMEWHERE IN THIS AREA?
UHHH..
OVER THERE?
OH, IT MUST BE ON THE OTHER SIDE.
ACROSS THE STREET?
...
WELL... ACTUALLY, I ONLY WENT EVERY OTHER WEEK.
I OFTEN SWAM AT A POOL CLOSE TO MY HOME BEFORE THE DIVORCE.

OH! THAT'S WHY
WHEN I SAW YOU FROM BEHIND. YOUR BACK AND WAIST LOOKED SO COOL!
TO-
TOMOKI!!
ACTING CON-FUSED
OH, SORRY!

HAVE YOU ALWAYS LIKED TO SWIM?
YEAH. BECAUSE WHEN I WAS A KID WE LIVED BY THE SEASIDE...
REALLY?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE A BOOKWORM AS A KID.
SPORTS CLUB MEMBERSHIP BENEF
I SWAM EVERY DAY IN THE SUMMERS.

STEP
STEP
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
OH, THE POOL'S OVER HERE
TOMO-
STEP
KI!
ARE-
ARE YOU COMING WITH ME?
STEP
STEP
IT'S FINE
I'LL COME ALONG SOME OTHER DAY.

IF YOU CALL ME BY MY FIRST NAME, WON'T IT SEEM LIKE WE'RE A COUPLE...?
IT WON'T!
I KNOW THAT IF I DON'T WATCH IT, I'LL GET A GUT, BUT STILL...
IT MIGHT SEEM MORE LIKE FATHER AND SON
WHAT...?
WELL, BUT...

YOU DID SAY YOU WANTED TO BECOME A FATHER WHEN YOU WERE ELEVEN YEARS OLD...
LET'S SAY BROTHERS THEN AT THE VERY LEAST!
HOW HARD IT IS TO COMMUNICATE.
NO, IT'S FINE.
HUH?
OH, THE FOOD IS GOOD HERE.
LET'S GO EAT AND THEN GO HOME.
YEAH.

Chien
dans
métro

dC「地下鉄の犬」&雑誌drap連動企画

描き下ろし折本♥応募者全員プレゼント

折本でしか読めないショートストーリー！

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Chien dans métro
Presented by KUSAMA SAKAE

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（ちかてつのいぬ）

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METRO DOG

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